OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR

 FROM:
 RILEY

 SUBJECT:
 HB 1597

 DATE
 3/18/02

 CC:
 FILE

HB 1597

HB 1597 amends current law to authorize DPS to charge a fee to other law enforcement departments or agencies for preparing and providing copies of the condensed form of the "Rules of the Road" booklet and statewide uniform traffic accident report forms. HB 1597 prohibits DPS or any other agency from charging a fee for providing the "Rules of the Road" booklet to the public. HB 1597 also authorizes DPS to compile the "Rules of the Road" and the statewide uniform traffic accident report forms in an electronic format, which shall be accessible by law enforcement agencies, other agencies and the public at no charge.

HB 1597 is effective July 1, 2002.

DPS officials reported in a House Transportation sub-committee meeting that the agency is spending about \$45,000/year providing complimentary copies of the "Rules of the Road" booklet and statewide uniform traffic accident report forms to law enforcement agencies around the state. Many local agencies request a box of the booklets or the reports when they have a staff that might only use 5-10 per year. DPS receives very few requests from the general public for these materials.

I recommend that you sign HB 1597.